

Love Empathy Pluralism



Executive Director Search

Leading the Future of Interfaith Collaboration



EXCITING OPPORTUNITY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lead a groundbreaking movement in interfaith collaboration and shape a more connected, compassionate world.

The Tri-Faith Initiative is entering an exciting new era — and we are searching for a bold, visionary Executive Director (ED) to lead the way. This is more than a leadership role. It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to guide one of the world's only intentionally co-located interfaith communities into its next chapter of impact, innovation, and global relevance. Founded over 15 years ago with a daring question: Can people of different faiths share not just space, but lives? Tri-Faith has emerged as a national model for how proximity can build empathy, transform hearts, and challenge the status quo. Our campus in Omaha, Nebraska, is home to three distinct faith communities — Judaism, Christianity, and Islam — alongside the Tri-Faith Center, where people from all backgrounds gather for dialogue, learning, and shared action.

Now, the Tri-Faith Initiative seeks a dynamic and inspiring Executive Director with a deep passion for interfaith relationships and engagement to build on this powerful foundation. The ED will serve as the chief visionary and strategist, working in close partnership with a committed staff, a dedicated Board of Directors, and the leadership of the three founding faith institutions. This is a unique chance to lead an organization rooted in local relationships and poised for national and international influence.

With curiosity, courage, and clarity of purpose, the ED will:

- **Advance our mission** by shaping innovative interfaith experiences, including a new immersive exhibition at the Tri-Faith Center.
- **Expand our reach** through bold partnerships, compelling storytelling, and high-impact programming.
- **Deepen our impact** by nurturing authentic relationships across faith, culture, and difference.
- **Elevate our voice** on the national stage as a leading model for religious pluralism and peaceful coexistence.



The right candidate will bring both strategic vision and a deeply human touch — someone who can inspire trust, mobilize resources, and foster a culture of inclusion, learning, and mutual respect. The new ED will join a movement that is actively redefining what it means to live in community, to lead with compassion, and to build bridges in a divided world.

Primary Stakeholders:

- **Tri-Faith Initiative Commons Faith Communities:** The ED's foremost priority is to work in close partnership with the three faith communities on the Tri-Faith Commons — each of which operates independently with its own building, governance, and leadership. The ED will strengthen these relationships, support the shared mission of the Abrahamic faiths, and serve as a resource to foster commonality, mutual understanding, and collective resilience across the campus. In partnership with the senior clergy, as the public face of the Tri-Faith Initiative, the ED will also serve as a dynamic leader and spokesperson, elevating Tri-Faith's work as a recognized model for cultivating and sustaining meaningful relationships across religious difference.
- **Omaha Community Partners:** The ED will represent and advocate for Tri-Faith within Omaha, acting as a key ambassador and building relationships with donors, university religion departments, and social justice organizations. Additionally, the ED will cultivate partnerships with institutions that help attract visitors and broaden the Initiative's local impact.
- **National & International Networks:** While the ED's initial focus will be on Omaha, the role will expand to a national and global stage, positioning Tri-Faith as a leading model for interfaith collaboration. The ED should bring or develop high-level relationships within the interfaith community. Credibility and expertise in engaging faith leaders and religious scholars will be essential, along with the ability to attract, manage, and provide resources that advance their work.

Key Success Metrics

- **Trusted Leadership & Governance:** Build strong, transparent relationships with the Board of Directors and faith leaders, fostering open communication and shared vision. Provide strategic leadership that strengthens effective governance and board engagement.
- **Fundraising & Financial Growth:** Meet or exceed revenue and fundraising targets through the cultivation of major donors, strategic partnerships, and expanded foundation support.
- **Programmatic Innovation & Reach:** Design and implement impactful, forward-thinking programming that resonates locally and expands Tri-Faith's reach on national and international platforms.



- **Collaborative Partnerships:** Foster meaningful collaborations with faith communities, civic organizations, and institutions to amplify mission alignment and collective impact.
- **Team Development & Culture:** Recruit, retain, and support a high-performing, mission-aligned team. Champion a values-driven internal culture that promotes growth, accountability, and continuous learning.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for a visionary leader to shape the future of the Tri-Faith Initiative and establish it as a global beacon of interfaith understanding and cooperation. If you are ready to lead with purpose, amplify a global message of unity, and be part of something truly one-of-a-kind — the Tri-Faith Initiative is calling.



Executive Director Job Description



Reports to:

Chair & Executive Committee — Board of Directors

Classification

Full Time, Exempt

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Tri-Faith Initiative (TFI) is seeking a visionary, experienced and mission-driven Executive Director (ED) to lead our nationally recognized nonprofit based in Omaha, Nebraska. The ED will provide strategic management and operational leadership, while advancing TFI's mission to foster interfaith collaboration among its three founding faith partners: Temple Israel (TI), Countryside Community Church (CCC), and the American Muslim Institute (AMI).

This is a unique opportunity to guide a one-of-a-kind organization that is both deeply rooted in the local community and increasingly influential across the nation. The ED will be responsible for advancing strategic priorities, ensuring financial sustainability, expanding community and national partnerships, and deepening TFI's impact through meaningful programming and engagement.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of the Executive Director will include the following:

Organizational Development & Thought Leadership

- Lead the strategic development and implementation of innovative, mission-aligned programs that elevate TFI as a trusted regional, national and global leader in interfaith collaboration.
- Oversee the development of educational initiatives, public dialogues, and cross-cultural experiences that build mutual understanding among diverse faiths.
- Guide the organization's thought leadership efforts, including speaker series, academic collaborations, publications, and interfaith convenings.
- Direct media and communications strategies that articulate TFI's story, highlight its impact, and engage broad audiences.
- Cultivate partnerships with academic, cultural and faith-based institutions to expand TFI's influence and reach.



Strategic Leadership & Community Engagement

- Champion TFI's mission across the Tri-Faith Commons and greater Omaha area while building momentum for national recognition.
- Develop a comprehensive community engagement strategy that aligns with TFI's values and enhances local and national visibility.
- Strengthen relationships with the founding faith partners, and cultivate partnerships with civic, religious, and interfaith organizations facilitating meaningful dialogue, joint initiatives, and collaborative programming.
- Represent TFI as a leading voice in religious pluralism through media appearances, public events and national coalitions.
- Maintain TFI's commitment to inclusion, dialogue and shared learning while staying free from political or geopolitical pressures.

Strategic Philanthropy & Resource Development

- Lead the creation and execution of a long-term fundraising strategy in partnership with the Board and Development Committee.
- Cultivate major donors, institutional partners and foundations to secure diverse funding sources that amplifies TFI's impact.
- Deepen donor relationships through meaningful engagement, stewardship and consistent communications.
- Explore national philanthropic networks to unlock new funding opportunities.
- Ensure fundraising efforts support both programmatic innovation and operational sustainability.

Financial Management & Sustainability

- Provide fiscal oversight including budgeting, financial planning and reporting.
- Align resources with strategic objectives and ensure compliance with financial policies and best practices.
- Explore mission-aligned revenue streams such as grants, sponsorships, individuals and other innovative funding opportunities.



Corporate Governance & Board Accountability

- Collaborate closely with the Board of Directors to uphold governance, strategic direction and financial stewardship.
- Work in strong partnership with the Board Chair to prioritize strategic goals and foster transparency.
- Serve as a key liaison between the Board, staff and stakeholders, ensuring open communication and accountability.
- Organize with the Board Chair all board and executive meetings, retreats and planning sessions.
- Engage regularly with the three Tri-Faith Founding Faith Partners to ensure organizational alignment with TFI's shared mission.

Required Qualifications

1. Proven track record of leading and managing an organization effectively.
2. Experience in interfaith engagement and collaboration.
3. Successful history of securing foundation grants and overseeing development efforts.
4. Demonstrated ability to build and sustain relationships with major donors.

Preferred Qualifications

1. At least eight (8) years of senior leadership experience in nonprofit or mission-driven organizations.
2. Minimum of four (4) or more years of leading initiatives or organizations focused on interfaith, religious or social impact work.
3. Advanced degree preferred; however, extensive and relevant leadership experience will be considered in lieu of a degree.
4. Prior experience specifically leading an interfaith organization is highly desirable.

Other Duties & Responsibilities

This job description is intended to convey information essential to understanding the scope of the Executive Director role. It is not an exhaustive list of all duties, responsibilities, or qualifications associated with the position. The scope of work may evolve over time in response to the needs of the organization, and the Executive Director may be required to perform additional duties as assigned, with or without prior notice.

**Travel Requirements:**

This position requires domestic travel as necessary to fulfill responsibilities and represent the organization.

COMPENSATION & BENEFITS**Salary:**

Starting compensation is \$100,000; actual offer determined by experience and qualifications.

Benefit Programs:

Tri-Faith Initiative offers a comprehensive and competitive benefits package that includes:

- Health & Dental Insurance
- Retirement Plan
- Paid Time Off (PTO)
- Twelve (12) paid holidays and 2 floating holidays per year
- Professional development opportunities
- Flexible work arrangements where applicable
- Parental/Family Leave
- Wellness Initiatives

Equal Opportunity Statement

Tri-Faith Initiative is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to fostering a diverse, inclusive, and equitable work environment. We value the intersectionality of our team and are proud to bridge divides across religious traditions and cultural identities. Our intentionally diverse campus in Omaha serves as a national model for interfaith collaboration and community-building.

How to Apply

Apply by sending an email with a resume/CV and cover letter to: EDsearch@trifaith.org

Our Mission

We cultivate inclusive environments to advance interfaith relationships and understanding.



Our Vision

We envision a world where differences are honored, similarities are built upon, and everyone belongs.



ABOUT THE TRI-FAITH INITIATIVE

The Tri-Faith Initiative (Tri-Faith or the Initiative) is a groundbreaking, one-of-a-kind 'neighborhood' where three Abrahamic faiths — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — have intentionally chosen to be in relationship together as neighbors on a shared campus. Rooted in respect, acceptance and trust, Tri-Faith goes beyond interfaith dialogue to foster deep collaboration, meaningful relationships, and shared learning among these three faith traditions.

Founded in 2006, the Tri-Faith Initiative is a groundbreaking testament to the power of unity amidst religious diversity. This visionary \$65 million project — made possible through generous support — is the first of its kind, bringing Jewish, Christian, and Muslim communities together on a shared 38-acre campus in Omaha, Nebraska. By fostering deep and lasting relationships, Tri-Faith redefines interfaith collaboration, proving that meaningful connections across faiths are not only possible but transformative.

At its heart, the Tri-Faith Initiative proves to show the world that interfaith collaboration is not just an aspiration — it is a thriving reality. As the Initiative continues to evolve, it enriches lives, deepens understanding, and cultivates a shared sense of purpose. Located in Omaha, Nebraska, the Tri-Faith Commons is home to a synagogue, a church, a mosque, and an interfaith educational center — each an architectural landmark on a 38-acre campus in the heart of America. Serving as a model and hub for interfaith learning, freedom of religious practice and celebration, Tri-Faith has reshaped Omaha's landscape, standing as a living testament to faith communities coexisting in partnership and peace. From this uniquely diverse space, the Tri-Faith Initiative bridges divides, unites faith communities, engages with local neighbors and enriches meaningful connections that reach across the nation and beyond.

The Tri-Faith Initiative is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization governed by a local Board of Directors composed of faith partners and community leaders. Since its inception, Tri-Faith has earned national recognition as a thought leader and innovator in interfaith collaboration, with features in major media outlets such as NPR, CNN, and The Huffington Post. Tri-Faith is unwavering in its commitment to responsible and responsive governance, ensuring the ongoing benefit of its stakeholders.

Our Board of Directors comprises 25 dedicated individuals, including five representatives from each of our three faith partner congregations, alongside ten influential local community members with strong ties to Omaha. The success of our work is made possible by the unwavering support of this dedicated network of community leaders and volunteers.

The Board believes open and transparent communication is a cornerstone of effective governance. Our Board prioritizes clear, consistent dialogue to fulfill its oversight role and drive the continued success of the Tri-Faith Initiative.



Our Faith Partners



American Muslim Institute



*Countryside Community
Church*



Temple Israel



Imam Ibrahim
Ashour

Rev. Dr. Jenny
Shultz-
Thomas

Rabbi Ben
Sharff



Temple Israel

Founded in 1871, Temple Israel is Omaha's Reform Jewish Congregation. With over 650 families, it is the largest Jewish congregation in the city. It has a long heritage of acclaimed Rabbinic leadership. Rabbis Aryeh Azriel and Sidney Brooks served the Congregation for roughly 60 of the last 65 years; each was a national thought leader, a rabbi to rabbis, and among the most sought-after advisers to area business and political leaders. Temple Israel has most recently welcomed in Rabbi Benjamin Sharff who has served a variety of communities throughout the country with a passion for Jewish engagement, intra-faith and interfaith work, and social justice including introducing dynamic and engaging worship and learning opportunities.

The Congregation is led by an unending series of strong and progressive clergy, lay volunteers, and participates with many other Omaha communities and organizations in the pursuit of Tzedek (justice), Teshuvah (repair), and Tikvah (hope). We are an amalgamation of Jews, Jews-by-Choice, and Jewish adjacent members who seek to engage with the tenants of our tradition: Torah, Gemilut Chasadim (acts of loving kindness), and Klal Yisrael (commitment to the community of Israel). Temple Israel opened the first building in the Tri-Faith neighborhood in 2013 — a fully funded, state of the art modern synagogue.

Our Mission:

We will engage our community with a modern spiritual, educational and social Jewish experience that uplifts our lives.

Our Vision:

To be an inclusive, connected and expanding Reform Jewish community.

Our Goals:

Torah, Tzedakah, Tikun Olam



Countryside Community Church

Founded in Omaha in 1949, Countryside Community Church is a dynamic and inclusive congregation of the United Church of Christ, a progressive Christian denomination committed to justice, diversity, and theological exploration. As the Christian presence on the Tri-Faith Commons, Countryside embodies a spirit of radical welcome, where all people — regardless of background, identity, or belief — are invited to experience God's transformative love.

Countryside is a congregation that dares to ask big questions. As a church with official designations in LGBTQ justice, racial justice, and disability justice, we are unwavering in our commitment to embracing diverse perspectives and actively working toward a more just and compassionate world. We are deeply engaged in interfaith collaboration, partnering with our Jewish and Muslim neighbors to foster mutual understanding and shared action for the common good.

Our Core Beliefs and Commitments:

- God is still speaking — *We believe in a living, loving God*
- Faith is a journey — *We create space for individuals to explore, question, and grow*
- All are welcome — *We embrace the full diversity of God's people.*
- Love in action — *We are called to work for justice, peace, and reconciliation*

The Core Values of Progressive Christianity:

As a progressive Christian community, we are committed to:

1. Following the way and teachings of Jesus as a path to experiencing sacredness, wholeness, and unity, while honoring the Spirit's movement in many faith traditions.
2. Seeking an inclusive community, welcoming all people regardless of theological perspective, age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, class, or ability.
3. Striving for peace and justice, believing that compassion and selfless love are the fullest expressions of faith.
4. Embracing contemporary science, working to protect the Earth and ensure its integrity and sustainability.
5. Committing to lifelong learning, valuing questions over absolutes in our pursuit of spiritual growth.

As part of the Tri-Faith Initiative, Countryside embraces interfaith partnership as a sacred calling. We believe that building relationships across religious traditions strengthens not only our faith but also our shared humanity. Rooted in Christ's example, we strive to be a community of courage, compassion, and hope, ever seeking to embody the love of God in a complex and changing world.



American Muslim Institute (AMI)

The American Muslim Institute (AMI) is a vibrant Islamic center and mosque in Omaha that welcomes Muslims from all ethnicities, races, languages, and backgrounds. We are dedicated to fostering an open and inclusive environment where every Muslim, regardless of gender or cultural heritage, can actively participate in our shared vision and mission.

Guided by the teachings of the Quran and the traditions of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH), AMI provides a wide range of religious, educational, and social services. We serve as a cornerstone of Omaha's Muslim community by offering daily prayers, Friday services, and educational programs. These include weekly lectures, youth education programs, leadership development opportunities, and research collaborations with local universities.

Beyond our role within the Muslim community, AMI actively promotes intercultural dialogues and collaborations, fostering mutual respect and understanding among people of various faiths. We welcome visitors from diverse traditions, encouraging dialogue and connection across religious and cultural divides.

AMI is also a proud founding member of the Tri-Faith Initiative of Omaha, a groundbreaking collaboration that brings together an Islamic center, a church, and a synagogue on a shared campus. This initiative reflects our deep commitment to interfaith dialogue and cooperation, demonstrating how communities of different faiths can work together in harmony. Through civic engagement and community partnerships, AMI strives to build a more inclusive society, one rooted in faith, respect, and collaboration.



The Tri-Faith Commons



Empathetic: *We are committed to transforming lives through fostering empathy and understanding*

Respectful: *We act with courage and conviction while striving for generous hospitality*

Joyful: *We believe it is important to purposefully nurture both humor and joy in our togetherness*

Informed: *We are guided by today's leading research and continuously assess our performance*

Open-minded: *We are an agent of change in transcending differences and engaging all persons*

Visionary: *We act with hope and faith as we work together for justice and peace in our world*

Leading: *We strive to be known as an innovative international leader in interfaith relations*

Engaged: *We celebrate and foster interfaith relationships, dialogues, and actions in our community*

Committed: *We are deeply passionate about understanding ourselves and our neighbors better*

Reverent: *We hold space for a purpose and meaning to our lives that is greater than ourselves*